

**A KEY TO THE NEW WORLD AMPHICROSSUS
ERICHSON (NITIDULIDAE).**

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Amphicrossus Erichson, 1843, in Germar, *Zeitschr. Ent.*, 4: 346.

Lobostoma Fairmaire, 1892, *Rev. d'Ent.*, 11: 90.

Rhacostoma Berg, 1898, *Com. Mus. Buenos Aires*, 1: 98.

Amphicrossus is absent from Europe, its center of distribution lying in eastern Asia. Therefore the few rare American forms probably have developed from ancestors that arrived via eastern Siberia and Alaska. Apparently all the species feed on sap.

In the males there is a small additional segment visible from beneath, and in some species a pencil of setae on each elytron at or near the suture at its middle.

A. insularis Grouvelle was wrongly cited by Leng and Mutchler (1914, *Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 33: 421) as occurring on the island of St. Thomas in the West Indies, since it was described from San Thomé (St. Thomas Island) 200 miles off the coast of French Equatorial Africa. Therefore it is omitted from the following key:

1. Pygidium without a black longitudinal line 2.
 Pygidium with a black longitudinal line *lateralis* Er.
2. Hind angles of pronotum very broadly rounded 3.
 Hind angles of pronotum narrowly rounded 4.
3. Males with the two pencils of setae on the sutural margin of
 each elytron, so that they touch almost all the way to
 their tips *limbatus* Sharp.
 Males with the two pencils of setae on the disc of each elytron
 farther apart, so that they could touch only at their
 tips *ciliatus* Olivier.
4. Margins of elytra with broad fringe of hair; pencil of setae
 present on each elytron in the male *horni* Sharp.
 Margins of elytra with narrow fringe of hair; pencil of setae
 absent from each elytron in the male *niger* Horn.

Amphicrossus lateralis Erichson

Amphicrossus lateralis Erichson, 1843, in Germar,
Zeitschr. Ent., 4: 348.

This, the only South American species, is unknown to me. Erichson described it from Pará, Brazil, and states that it is related

to *ciliatus*. If the key character does not prove to be constant, the locality should help to distinguish this species.

Amphicrossus limbatus Sharp

Amphicrossus limbatus Sharp, 1889, Biol. Centr.-Amer., vol. 2, pt. 1, p. 349.

This species is still known only from the type pair collected in Guatemala.

Amphicrossus ciliatus (Olivier)

Amphicrossus ciliatus Olivier (*Nitidula*), 1811, Encycl. meth., 8: 210.

Amphicrossus (?) *unilineatus* Say (*Nitidula*), 1825, Journ. Acad. Philadelphia, 5: 182.

This species extends from Ontario to Florida, Cuba, and Panamá, west to Texas, Missouri, and Iowa. The Panamá record is based on a specimen in the U.S.N.M. collected by Schwarz, Jan. 3, at Old Panamá. In the same museum is a specimen Schwarz collected, Jan. 22, at Cayamas, Cuba.

Amphicrossus horni Sharp

Amphicrossus horni Sharp, 1889, Biol. Centr.-Amer., vol. 2, pt. 1, p. 349.

This species is still known only from the type series collected in Guatemala.

Amphicrossus niger Horn

Amphicrossus niger Horn, 1879, Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., 7: 317.

This rare species differs from *ciliatus* in being fuscous above (not black as Horn says), unicolorous, having more parallel sides, much narrower elytral fringe of hair, and in lacking the pencil of setae near the sutural margin of each elytron.

Of *niger* there are three specimens (one a cotype in the Leconte collection) in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, three in the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences (cotypes) and one in the British Museum: all labelled "Ariz." There is also a specimen in the Van Dyke collection of the California Academy of Sciences from the San Pedro River, Fairbanks, Arizona, Sept. 6 and one from Tucson, Ariz., Aug. 16, in the University of Kansas collection.

The writer is greatly indebted to the various curators for the privilege of examining material and particularly to Mr. Hugh Scott for notes on the types in the British Museum.